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MONTANA

EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE QUARTERLY REPORT

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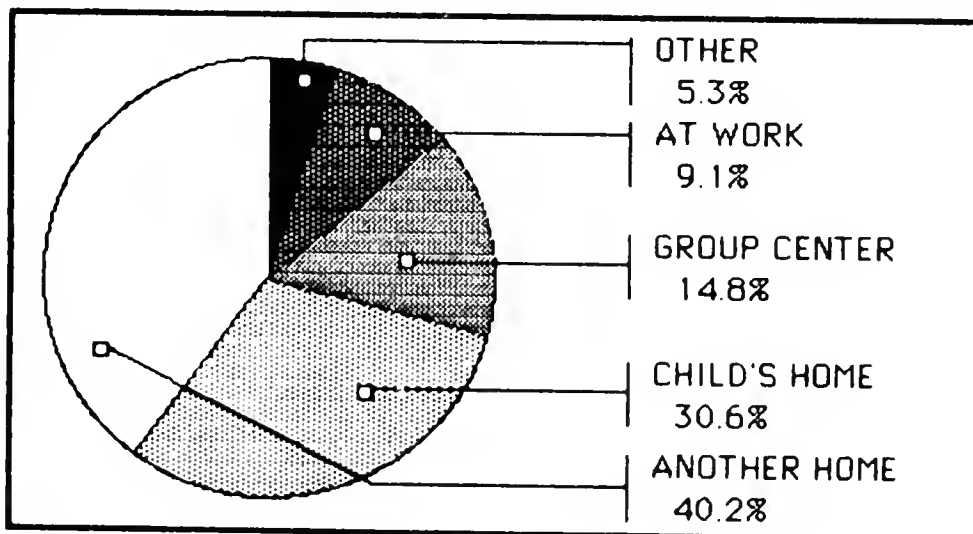
FOURTH QUARTER 1984

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CHILD CARE

ARRANGEMENTS USED BY EMPLOYED MOTHERS



SOURCE: U. S. CENSUS BUREAU



RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
P. O. BOX 1728
HELENA, MONTANA 59624

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CHILD CARE

The availability of reliable, quality child care is an important employment issue. In March 1984 an estimated 32.7 million U.S. children had mothers who were working or seeking work. In 1940, 8.6% of mothers with children under age 18 were working, in 1970 the number had grown to 40 percent, and by 1982, 59 percent of mothers with minor children were in the labor force.

Information concerning where and how these children are cared for while mom works is sparse. The front cover graph presents a look at nationwide child care arrangements used by women whose youngest child was under age five. Women employed full-time were most likely to use child care provided in another's home, while for part-time workers the father often provided care at home.



MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

Quarterly Report

4th. Qtr. 1984

STATE OF MONTANA

TED SCHWINDEN, GOVERNOR

Department of Labor and Industry

David E. Wanzenried, Commissioner

All statistics for labor force employment, unemployment, and unemployment rates contained in this publication are in accordance with the Federal guidelines as established by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Methodology procedures use a household sample conducted in Montana on a monthly basis which is called the Current Population Survey. These official statistics are used to allocate Federal funds and to determine eligibility for Federal assistance programs.

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS

1. Civilian Labor Force - the number of persons 16 years and older, defined as employed or unemployed, excluding members of the armed forces.
2. Employed - those persons who work for pay or profit during a week or, as unpaid family workers, work 15 hours or more during a week. Also included as employed are those who, although not working had some job attachment and were not looking for work, including persons temporarily absent from a job due to illness, bad weather, vacation, or labor dispute, whether or not they were in a pay status during their time off.
3. Unemployed - the number of persons who, for an entire week, did not work at all, were able to work and available for work, and (1) were looking for work or (2) would have looked for work except that (a) they were waiting to return to a job from which they had been laid off, or (b) they were waiting to report to a new wage and salary job scheduled to start within the following 30 days (and were not in school during the week).
4. Unemployment Rate - the number of unemployed expressed as a percent of the civilian labor force.
5. Residence Data - a count of people by where people live.
6. Establishment Data - a count of jobs by where people work.
7. Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Series - to facilitate the evaluation of the labor force, recurrent yearly movements have been isolated and removed using the X-11 ARIMA method of seasonal adjustment. This is the same method used by the Bureau of Labor Statistics to seasonally adjust the national labor force series.
8. Real Spendable Average Weekly Earnings of Private Nonagricultural Production Workers - represents the earnings of a hypothetical individual after deductions for State Income, Federal Income and Social Security taxes, and adjustment for change in purchasing power since 1967. This individual is assumed to be sole support for a family of four, earn the average weekly gross earnings of production workers in Montana's private nonagricultural industries, and take standard deductions on State and federal income taxes. Taxes were computed using standard tax tables, and purchasing power was adjusted by deflating Spendable Earnings based on the national Consumer Price Index.
9. MSA - Metropolitan Statistical Area - as determined by the Office of Management and Budget. The MSA must have a central city with a population of 50,000 or more.
10. LFA - Labor force Area as determined by the Research and Analysis Bureau, Montana Department of Labor and Industry, consists of a central city or cities with a population of less than 50,000 and the economically integrated geographical area surrounding it.
11. SDA - The Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) was established to replace CETA in job search, placement, relocation, and especially training assistance. Each state designs local plans for JTPA programs through a Private Industry Council (PIC). Each PIC jurisdiction is known as Service Delivery Area (SDA). The two SDA's for Montana are known as Rural CEP (Beaverhead, Broadwater, Deer Lodge, Granite, Jefferson, Lewis & Clark, Madison, Meagher, Powell, and Silver Bow counties) and Balance of State (the other 46 counties).
12. BENCHMARKING - It is a continuous process of establishing a new set of data which affects the series of estimates through revisions. Once a new benchmark is established, the adjustments to estimates between the new benchmark and the preceding one are carried forward progressively to the current month by use of sample trends. The benchmark is established less frequently (usually once a year) based on sample or secondary data. In case of employment data, the benchmark is used to establish the level of employment, while the sample is primarily used to measure the month - to - month changes in the level.
13. CLS-790 Program - current employment statistics survey produces monthly estimates of a wide variety of employment and earnings information for the nation and each state.

Montana Employment and Unemployment Situation
(In Thousands)

	DEC. 1984 <u>Prelim</u>	NOV. 1984 <u>Revised</u>	OCT. 1984 <u>Revised</u>	DEC. 1983 <u>Revised</u>
Civilian Labor Force	395.6	396.9	402.3	385.3
Employment	367.9	370.6	377.2	352.5
Unemployment	27.7	26.3	25.1	32.8
Unemployment Rate	7.0%	6.6%	6.2%	8.5%

ECONOMIC HIGHLIGHTS AND EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK

STATEWIDE

In both Montana and the nation, the preliminary annual average unemployment rate for 1984 indicates the first decline in the rate since the upward movement started in 1980. In Montana the economic recovery, as measured by the decline in the unemployment rate, is not as great as the national picture. Montana usually lags the nation in recovering from a recession in many economic activities. A force working toward reducing the unemployment rate is the shifting age structure of the labor force. Demographic studies indicate that fewer youths are entering the labor market and the 25 to 44 age group is increasing their percentage of the total labor force.

Tracking the flow of workers into and out of the state is an important indicator of the state's economic well being and one such measure of these workers is the count of persons drawing unemployment compensation. A noticeable shift occurred in workers that were employed and laid off in Montana and then moved to another state - the 16 percent decline in 1984 is the first lower yearly total since 1977. On the other side of the coin, those workers that were laid off from their job in another state and moved to Montana dropped 34% between 1983 and 1984. These two unemployment insurance statistics reveals that Montana's work force in 1984 was more stable and less migrant than in the past few years. However, Montana's economy must continue to prosper, especially with basic industry jobs, or the labor force will trend toward an out-migration pattern such as experienced in the 60's.

Business expansion, as measured by new enterprises registered with the unemployment insurance compensation program, slowed down in 1984. The last four years percent increase over the previous year's total new businesses are as follows: 1981(28%), 1982(9%), 1983(10%), and 1984(4%). One possible conclusion might be that the expansion is now quieter and steadier, and modest gains are part of the expected slower

growth pattern of the economy. The construction and service industries realized the most gain in new businesses from 1983 to 1984.

During 1984, oil and gas exploration increased in volume and broadened out into untested areas of the state. In the past year, 745 oil wells were drilled in Montana - about 50 percent more than the year before and just 6 percent below the annual average over the past decade. The western counties experienced fifteen test wells and much seismic work as the Overthrust Belt exploration continues. Positive results are not known yet, as much of the exploration information is being withheld as long as legally possible. Montana and Idaho are the only states left that have not realized a substantial oil and gas discovery in the Overthrust Belt that runs between Mexico and into Canada. Also, exploration work is expanding in the eastern counties outside the Williston Basin.

Mining employment was fairly steady in the fourth quarter and this is good considering the current low market price for most metals. Some layoffs were reported by gold and silver mines, as these products have noticed the most price decline. Many new gold mines have been proposed throughout the western counties and are in the evaluation process by the Department of State Lands. Many prospectors continue to rent state land in hopes of finding mineral riches but because of the market conditions, few are developing their prospects.

The 1984 annual average increase in the two Consumer Price Indexes varied more than in the past few years. The CPI-U (4.3% increase) and the CPI-W (3.4% increase) usually differ by .1% or .2%, but in 1984 the difference shot up to .9%. The major difference between the two inflation indicators in 1984 was in the treatment of the housing component. The CPI-U incorporates a rental equivalence measure of homeownership cost and the CPI-W calculated homeowner costs on items such as home purchase, mortgage interest, taxes, and repair. Starting in 1985 the two indexes should blend back to a smaller difference because the CPI-W is converting to rental cost from home ownership cost.

GREAT FALLS LFA

Great Falls hotel and motel owners and managers expect 1985 to be a banner year for conventions. Some of the expectations will be filled by the practice of organizations rotating their convention site among Montana's leading cities and Great Falls is scheduled for many of them. Stronger convention promotional efforts are included in many hotel and motel managers plans, especially since the considerably lower value of Canadian money has reduced the number of Canadian visitors to the Electric City.

Construction of a five-story downtown office building and the building of a skywalk system are two proposals city officials are considering. The city would buy the land and lease the property to a developer that will build at an estimated cost of \$5.5 million. A 70 percent occupancy commitment is needed before construction would begin. City commissioners are discussing the possibility of downtown skywalks and using \$1 million to start the program.

The 1984 new businesses tally from the records of the Department of Labor and Industry indicates nearly the same level as in 1983. Trade and service industries amounted to 60 percent of the total new businesses. New car registrations during 1984 in Cascade County are down 12 percent from the previous year's total, but 1983 was up 34 percent from 1982's total new car registrations.

In the fourth quarter the restaurant industry noticed considerable activity. Two "classy" restaurants closed down after being open for only a short time. At the same time several new eating establishments opened - most were small ethnic food or specialty food types.

Much of the major construction projects continues to be concentrated on Malmstrom Air Force Base. Several more highway projects were awarded to local contractors, but the work is mostly in the western counties. Plans for \$5.8 million in construction at the Air National Guard facility was announced.

Hospitals in Great Falls continue to have progressive problems. The Malmstrom Air Force Base hospital now offers childbirth to military personnel, which will probably cause staff reductions elsewhere. Also, a local hospital's plan for an out-patient surgery center has been turned down by state health authorities.

Measured in dollars, home sales were up nearly 7 percent more than 1983. The realtors association also reported that they transacted 1,237 home sales, which is up 2.3 percent from 1983. The average sales price was \$54,833, also the highest ever.

BILLINGS LFA

Billings had its second largest home building year ever in 1984. The building permit records indicate the metro area had 591 single family applications filed in 1984 which is 10 percent less than 1983's total. New commercial construction value was recorded at \$26.5 million, up \$4.2 million from 1983. Remodeling and additions is down \$26 million in 1984, but the major difference is the extensive additions to hospitals in 1983. Also multi-family construction declined in 1984 and this is expected to carry into 1985.

A 106-acre development sponsored by 50 investors is being built in Billings West End. When completely developed the \$6.5 million investment will contain 115 single-family lots, 30 duplex lots, 29 multi-family lots, 28 commercial lots, and a park. To speed up the development, investors decided against special improvement district and chose to finance the development's water and sewer lines themselves.

Banking executives have placed Billings high on a poll naming cities that are expected to lead the nation's economic growth. Billings, which tied with Phoenix, Arizona, for fifth place in the 12-state Western region, was the regions smallest "Cinderella" city.

The Billings Area Chamber of Commerce plans stronger promotion of the Magic City as a convention center. In addition to a new tourism and convention council, the Chamber of Commerce hired its first director of tourism and conventions. When 3000 members of a farm organization converges on Billings in early February, active planning by the chamber's convention committee will be tested by the delegates annual meeting.

Expansion plans were announced by several nonprofit community centers. The YMCA is planning to spend \$12 million in modernization of facilities and for auxiliary facilities in Billings Heights and West Billings. A goal of \$4 million has been set to improve the Community Cultural Center. A fund drive has started to raise \$1.4 million for a new Boy's Club.

A pork-packing plant closed down, leaving 160 workers without a job. The past five years has been a financial struggle for the meat manufacturer. Problems started with lawsuits in 1979 over dangerous chemical contaminations of a chicken feed by-product, and a nationwide decline in pork consumption forced a temporary closure in October 1983. When the plant reopened in January 1985, the work force was only 1/3 the original size; the market area was reduced to five states from thirteen; and a substantial paycut was agreed to by the union workers.

The pace of new businesses registered with the Department of Labor & Industry was stronger for the first three quarters, but the fourth quarter activity slowed down in the Billings MSA. The 622 new businesses recorded in 1984 is five less than 1983. The top three industry groups and their percentages are: trade 30%, service 30%, and construction 18%.

New car registrations had the same trend in Yellowstone County as new businesses - the record high movement during the first three quarters being erased by the fourth quarter's slower activity. New car sales to county residents in 1984 ended up being nearly three percent less than the previous year.

MISSOULA - KALISPELL - SHELBY LFA

Shopping mall development in Kalispell is moving smoothly. Ten million dollars in industrial bonds were processed in December to aid the financing of a new mall. A 135-unit motel and convention center, 170,000 square feet of retail stores, and a duplex movie theatre are planned for the site. The developers noted that 75 percent of the mall has been leased by tenants. A downtown Kalispell mall is in the middle of expansion work and has just added 56,000 square feet of retail space.

Plans have been submitted to the county planning office for an 18-hole golf course and 277 lot subdivision for the Whitefish area. The developers are requesting annexation to the city to obtain city water and sewer for the single family and townhouse lots.

New apartment builders are again toying with projects in Missoula, after a long lull in construction that accompanied the economic recession. Local rental-management firms report low vacancy rates of .5% to 3.0% in the properties they control. Among the projects recently proposed are a 32 unit, a 20 unit, a 16 unit, and numerous four-plexes and duplexes.

Fifteen oil and gas exploration wells were drilled in the Montana overthrust belt last year, although none noted any great success. The deepest well was drilled to 17,774 feet in Flathead County. Several more wells are planned with most of them classified as a "tight hole" to ensure test results remain secret for as long as legally permissible.

A special task force to gather statistical data on the economic base of Flathead County has been organized by the Kalispell Area Chamber of Commerce. Information will be gathered on the county's resources in nine areas: types of businesses, land and facilities, natural resources, human resources, employment and training, transportation, government, public attitude, and communications. The purpose of the study is to find out where the valley stands economically and proceed with that knowledge to plan for the future - through the year 2000.

Pay cuts are rippling through the area's lumber mills. A \$2 an hour across the board wage decrease started December 1 at three mills located in Darby, Columbia Falls and Dillion. A new ownership for two mills at Darby and Conners started up in the first week of January; they also reduced pay by about \$2 per hour for the former workers. The so-called "Big Seven" lumber companies of the northwest requested that union employees take a \$4 an hour pay decrease or face massive shutdowns. Negotiations are continuing on that proposal.

A Kalispell firm that manufactures components used in semi-conductors placed 15th on a business magazine's listing of the fastest growing privately held companies in the U.S. Sales have increased 6,452 percent from 1979 to 1983 - sales were listed at \$6,668,000 in 1983. The firm is currently building a larger facility. Other small manufacturing firms have improved their market conditions. An electronic firm in Polson expects to hire eight more employees. In their six year history, they have grown from one to 54 employees. A new wood furniture plant is under construction near Kalispell. Plans have been announced for another bronze (art) foundry north of Kalispell. A Polson firm secured a large contract to build toys and toy parts for a major national toy manufacturer.

Temporary layoffs continue in the logging industry, as well as in the mills. A Kalispell meat processing and packing firm has closed causing about 12 layoffs.

ANACONDA - BUTTE - HELENA LFA

Several more mining proposals were announced by developers. A gold mine about 20 miles south of Butte might open in 1985. The operation would use a newly developed technique for filtering out fine gold without chemically damaging the environment. A proposed talc mine and milling operation would offer jobs for residents of Jefferson and Madison counties. Construction of the facilities would need about 60 workers for eight months. Early in 1986 nearly 40 personnel would start up mining and processing operations. Depending on market conditions, the employment could grow to 90 workers in a few years.

A lumber mill south of Dillon reduced their staff by one shift of 25 employees and is planning a \$2 per hour pay cut for the remaining workers. The firm recognizes that lumber industry wage rates in the west are higher than most comparable industries per unit of output and also higher than the firm's mid-western and southern competitors.

Building permits for Helena indicate valuation is down nearly 35 percent from 1983 to 1984 and the bulk of the decline is due to fewer government buildings being proposed. Single home and multi-unit construction improved slightly in 1984 over 1983's permits issued.

A four-year survey of building permits issued in Butte-Silver Bow shows a sharp increase in the value of construction in the community since 1981. In 1981 permits issued had a value of \$1.7 million and 1984 had \$8.0 million valuation. During 1984 the government issued 15 permits for construction projects valued at more than \$100,000 each. Local officials noted that the recent developments are not the signs of a dying town.

BOZEMAN - LEWISTOWN LFA

A manufacturer of wood pellets which are used as a fuel source, is slowly increasing in size. Their recent largest commercial account acquisition will allow a second production shift to start. Owners plan further marketing of the new product, with emphasis on a 250 mile radius of Livingston.

A gold mine, which would be located in southern Park County, is being proposed. An environmental impact statement will be conducted for the mine - as many as 150 people would be employed if all of the 25 required permits are approved. Developers would start the project in 1986, with production beginning as early as 1987.

An electronics plant that is the largest private employer in Bozeman has been sold to its fourth owner since its start-up in 1967. How the January change of ownership will affect plant employees is not yet known.

Restaurant growth is continuing in Bozeman as two more eating establishments opened in the fourth quarter. One is part of a national franchise that anticipates a 40-50 employment level and the other restaurant is an expansion of a regional developer who will employ about 70 full and part-time workers.

In Bozeman a motel-convention center has been trying to establish financing for several months. A national motel franchise has been authorized for the 130 room motel, but the low interest financing has not been finalized.

HAVRE - GLASGLOW LFA

All of the eastern Montana counties felt the impact of the drought with Hill County probably leading the lowest precipitation record. The 6.7 inches of precipitation received in Hill County during 1984 is the lowest recorded since 1905. Already farmers are looking for ways to deal with the possible irrigation problems for the spring crops. A farm bank in Chinook is voluntarily liquidating their assets, after 51 years in business.

Late in the fall, a gold mining operation in southern Phillips County shut down for about three months, resulting in about 50 workers being laid off. This is an annual temporary closure that occurs when the quota of gold contracted has been obtained.

Weather permitting work continues on various projects throughout the LFA. In November a 27 housing unit project, costing \$1.5 million, started at various locations on the Fort Peck reservation. Near Havre,

the military radar station is being activated and modernized into a bomber training observation post. In Glasgow a shopping center was completed in December. Oil and gas exporation in Valley County continues to grow as eight new sites have been prepared and drilling will begin in the near future. A Naional Guard Armory in Havre is nearing competition and an auto dealer is expanding their facility. A mechanic and other trades shop facility is being constructed for about \$.75 million at Glasgow High School.

MILES CITY - GLENDIVE LFA

Operators of a proposed coal mine to be located south of Miles City were granted a mining permit in November by the Montana Department of State Lands. The mining permit application took over three years to assemble and comprises 35 volumes of approximately 5,000 pages. Another major step for the mine developers is getting the 89-mile rail-line to Miles City approved. The expected life of the mine is 22 years, and it will take four years to develop the mining facility.

A major oil company is evaluating a \$7 million pilot program it began this fall to test a method of recovering otherwise unrecoverable oil from a well between Glendive and Baker. Officials said the technique of injecting carbon dioxide to increase production could extend the life of the area's oil fields by 50 years and create 50 to 60 new jobs. Most of the projects experimental activity will begin in 1987 or 1988.

A Wyoming oil exploration firm plans to launch a well-drilling program in Powder River County. Three drilling permit applications were filed and an estimated 60 to 80 wells could be drilled in the next few years in the untested area.

The area's sugar beet crop has been harvested and is being processed at the sugar plant near Sidney. The dry weather did reduce the yield to between 17 and 18 tons per acre, which is about 15 percent below the average year's yield. The factory will be in full operation until early February.

A Sidney millwork firm is competing on a regional level with their products. The firm started in 1978 and now has 17 craftsmen building cabinets, shelving and other furnishing. Some of the shop's equipment is computerized and very unique to the trade.

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - U.S.

All Items

(1967=100)

	1984		1983		1982	
	CPI-U	CPI-W	CPI-U	CPI-W	CPI-U	CPI-W
January	305.2	302.7	293.1	292.1	282.5	282.1
February	306.6	303.3	293.2	292.3	283.4	282.9
March	307.3	303.3	293.4	293.0	283.1	282.5
April	308.8	304.1	295.5	294.9	284.3	283.7
May	309.7	305.4	297.1	296.3	287.1	286.5
June	310.7	306.2	298.1	297.2	290.6	290.1
July	311.7	307.5	299.3	298.2	292.2	291.8
August	313.0	310.3	300.3	299.5	292.8	292.4
September	314.5	312.1	301.8	300.8	293.3	292.8
October	315.3	312.2	302.6	301.3	294.1	293.6
November	315.3	311.9	303.1	301.4	293.6	293.2
December	315.5	312.2	303.5	301.5	292.4	292.0
Dec-to-Dec %	4.0%	3.5%	3.8%	3.3%	3.9%	3.9%
AVERAGE:	311.1	307.6	298.4	297.4	289.1	288.6
Ann Avg %	4.3%	3.4%	3.2%	3.0%	6.1%	6.0%

Expenditure Category	Dec.	Nov.	Oct.	Dec.	Dec.
CPI-U Index	1984	1984	1984	1983	1982
All Items	315.5	315.3	315.3	303.5	292.4
Food & Beverages	297.2	296.3	296.6	286.5	279.1
Housing	341.2	340.9	341.2	327.4	316.3
Apparel & Upkeep	203.2	205.2	205.7	199.3	193.6
Transportation	315.8	316.1	315.5	306.3	294.8
Medical Care	388.5	387.5	385.5	366.2	344.3
Entertainment	260.1	259.0	258.3	249.5	240.1
Other Goods & Services	316.7	316.5	315.8	298.6	276.6

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures changes in prices of goods and services in major expenditure groups. The CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) covers about 40 percent of the total noninstitutional population. The CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) covers about 80 percent of the total noninstitutional population, including wage earners and clerical workers, salaried workers, the self-employed, retirees, and the unemployed.

TABLE I

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

Not Seasonally Adjusted
(In Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	Employment			Unemployment			Labor Manage -ment Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ Montana	U.S.	
1982								
January	367.3	333.5	313.7	19.8	33.8	9.2%	9.4%	*
February	371.5	334.1	312.6	21.5	37.4	10.1%	9.6%	*
March	380.3	342.6	316.7	25.9	37.7	9.9%	9.5%	*
April	389.6	355.1	323.3	31.8	34.5	8.9%	9.2%	*
May	398.2	365.4	332.6	32.8	32.8	8.2%	9.1%	.8
June	408.7	373.4	336.1	37.3	35.3	8.6%	9.8%	*
July	410.3	376.2	336.2	40.0	34.1	8.3%	9.8%	*
August	412.3	380.0	337.2	42.8	32.3	7.8%	9.6%	*
September	400.4	371.6	338.3	33.3	28.8	7.2%	9.7%	*
October	397.3	366.1	337.8	28.3	31.2	7.9%	9.9%	*
November	392.3	357.9	333.5	24.4	34.4	8.8%	10.4%	*
December	387.7	352.0	331.0	21.0	35.7	9.2%	10.5%	*
Avg.	393.0	359.0	329.1	29.9	34.0	8.6%	9.7%	*
1983								
January	380.5	338.2	318.9	19.3	42.3	11.1%	11.4%	*
February	382.4	339.4	318.4	21.0	43.0	11.2%	11.3%	*
March	389.7	348.4	323.2	25.2	41.3	10.6%	10.8%	*
April	395.1	356.9	325.9	31.0	38.2	9.7%	10.0%	*
May	395.7	361.2	329.2	32.0	34.5	8.7%	9.8%	*
June	409.9	374.5	338.1	36.4	35.4	8.6%	10.2%	*
July	405.8	370.8	331.8	39.0	35.0	8.6%	9.4%	*
August	406.3	374.0	332.3	41.7	32.3	8.0%	9.2%	1.6
September	394.6	367.7	335.2	32.5	26.9	6.8%	8.8%	.1
October	393.2	365.9	338.2	27.7	27.3	6.9%	8.4%	.1
November	389.5	358.5	334.7	23.8	31.0	8.0%	8.1%	.2
December	385.3	352.5	332.0	20.5	32.8	8.5%	8.0%	.2
Avg.	394.0	359.0	329.8	29.2	35.0	8.8%	9.6%	*
1984								
January	390.1	349.4	330.6	18.8	40.7	10.4%	8.8%	.3
February	390.3	351.6	331.1	20.5	38.7	9.9%	8.4%	.3
March	397.4	358.6	334.0	24.6	38.8	9.8%	8.1%	.3
April	403.5	368.4	338.1	30.3	35.1	8.7%	7.6%	.2
May	406.7	377.3	346.1	31.2	29.5	7.2%	7.2%	.2
June	422.8	390.2	354.7	35.5	32.6	7.7%	7.4%	.2
July	414.5	383.4	345.4	38.0	31.1	7.5%	7.5%	.1
August	418.5	388.9	348.3	40.7	29.6	7.1%	7.3%	.1
September	407.2	382.0	350.6	31.7	25.2	6.2%	7.1%	*
October	402.3	377.2	350.2	27.0	25.1	6.2%	7.0%	*
November	396.9	370.6	347.4	23.2	26.3	6.6%	6.9%	*
December(P)	395.6	367.9	347.9	20.0	27.7	7.0%	7.0%	*
Avg.	403.8	372.1	343.6	28.5	31.7	7.8%	7.5%	.1

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded numbers). Series began January 1970.

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment. Revised to 1983 Benchmarks.

* Under 50. Most recent month is preliminary.

TABLE 11

M O N T A N A

Statewide Employment by Industry

(In Thousands)

I N D U S T R Y				Net Changes to Dec. 1984 from:	
	Dec. 1984	Nov. 1984	Oct. 1984	Nov. 1984	Dec. 1983
(Residence Data)					
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS 1/.....	395.6	396.9	402.3	-1.3	10.3
EMPLOYED PERSONS.....	367.9	370.6	377.2	-2.7	15.4
Persons Employed in Agriculture.....	20.0	23.2	27.0	-3.2	-0.5
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS.....	27.7	26.3	25.1	1.4	-5.1
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted 2/.....	7.0%	6.6%	6.2%	0.4	-1.5
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted 2/.....	7.6%	7.1%	7.0%	0.5	-0.8

(Establishment Data)					
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS.....	274.8	275.8	276.7	-1.0	1.5
Manufacturing.....	20.0	20.6	20.9	-.6	-.7
Mining.....	6.4	6.5	6.5	-.1	.1
Contract Construction.....	10.3	11.6	12.3	-1.3	-1.6
Transportation and Public Utilities.....	19.9	20.1	20.1	-.2	-.2
Trade.....	73.2	72.0	71.8	1.2	.6
Wholesale Trade.....	17.2	17.3	17.2	-.1	-.2
Retail Trade.....	56.0	54.8	54.6	1.2	.8
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate.....	13.0	12.9	12.9	.1	0
Services.....	60.1	59.8	60.1	.3	1.8
Government.....	71.9	72.3	72.1	-.4	1.6
Federal Government.....	11.9	11.7	12.2	.2	-.2
State and Local Government.....	60.0	60.6	59.9	-.6	1.8

1/ Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers. Current month preliminary. Revised to 1983 Benchmarks.

2/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. Establishment Series began January 1964; Residence Series began January 1970.

TABLE III

Montana Labor Force Areas 1/
Civilian Labor Force
(In Thousands)

	Civilian Labor Force			Employment			Unemployment			Unemployment Rate 2/		
	DEC. 1984	NOV. 1984	OCT. 1984	DEC. 1984	NOV. 1984	OCT. 1984	DEC. 1984	NOV. 1984	OCT. 1984	DEC. 1984	NOV. 1984	OCT. 1984
STATEWIDE	395.6	396.9	402.3	367.9	370.6	377.2	27.7	26.3	25.1	7.0%	6.6%	6.2%
Great Falls MSA	33.7	33.7	33.9	31.4	31.3	31.6	2.3	2.4	2.3	6.9%	7.0%	6.9%
Billings MSA	59.7	59.4	59.9	55.9	55.8	56.3	3.8	3.6	3.6	6.4%	6.1%	6.1%
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:												
Western District 3/	213.1	213.3	215.7	197.4	198.4	201.8	15.7	14.9	13.9	7.4%	7.0%	6.4%
Eastern District	182.5	183.6	186.6	170.5	172.2	175.4	12.0	11.4	11.2	6.6%	6.2%	6.0%
SERVICE DELIVERY AREAS:												
Rural CEP	68.7	68.8	69.6	64.0	64.3	65.1	4.7	4.5	4.5	6.9%	6.5%	6.5%
Balance of State	326.9	328.1	332.7	303.9	306.3	312.1	23.0	21.8	20.6	7.0%	6.7%	6.2%
ANACONDA-BUTTE	34.2	34.4	35.2	31.6	30.0	32.6	2.6	2.4	2.6	7.7%	7.0%	7.4%
BOZEMAN	30.4	30.0	30.6	28.5	28.4	29.1	1.9	1.6	1.5	6.2%	5.4%	4.8%
GLASGOW	17.1	17.3	17.7	16.1	16.4	16.8	1.0	.9	.9	5.7%	5.4%	5.3%
GLENDIVE	14.4	14.7	15.3	13.7	14.0	14.6	.7	.7	.7	5.2%	4.9%	4.7%
HARDIN-RED LODGE	12.8	13.1	13.2	11.8	12.2	12.4	1.0	.9	.8	7.7%	6.9%	6.2%
HAVRE	12.6	12.7	12.9	11.7	11.8	12.1	.9	.9	.8	7.3%	7.0%	6.5%
HELENA	33.3	33.1	33.1	31.3	31.2	31.3	2.0	1.9	1.8	5.9%	5.9%	5.5%
KALISPELL	45.4	45.2	46.1	41.7	41.6	42.8	3.7	3.6	3.3	8.2%	8.0%	7.3%
LEWISTOWN	10.9	11.2	11.5	10.1	10.5	10.9	.8	.7	.6	7.1%	6.3%	5.4%
MILES CITY	18.6	18.7	19.1	17.3	17.6	18.0	1.3	1.1	1.1	7.1%	5.7%	5.7%
MISSOULA	55.4	56.0	55.8	51.1	51.8	52.1	4.3	4.2	3.7	7.9%	7.5%	6.6%
SHELBY-CUT BANK	17.0	17.4	17.9	15.8	16.2	16.8	1.2	1.2	1.1	7.2%	6.9%	6.2%

1/ A list of counties included in each Labor Force Area appears on map on inside back cover.

2/ Unemployment Rate is calculated on unrounded numbers.

3/ Western congressional district includes the LFA's of: Anaconda-Butte, Bozeman, Helena, Kalispell, Missoula, and Shelby-Cut Bank less Chouteau County. Rural CEP includes the LFA's of: Anaconda-Butte, Helena, plus Meagher County.

TABLE IV-A
MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

DECEMBER 1984

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	PERCENT RATE
--------	-------------------------	------------	--------------	-----------------

STATEWIDE	395620	367909	27711	7.0
CASCADE	33707	31381	2326	6.9
YELLOWSTONE	59703	55862	3841	6.4
BEAVERHEAD	4198	3918	280	6.7
BIG HORN	4687	4313	374	8.0
BLAINE	3240	2935	305	9.4
BROADWATER	2181	2078	103	4.7
CARBON	4378	4057	321	7.3
CARTER	747	711	36	4.8
CHOUTEAU	2717	2594	123	4.5
CUSTER	6480	5992	488	7.5
DANIELS	1188	1146	42	3.5
DAWSON	5338	5065	273	5.1
DEER LODGE	4928	4468	460	9.3
FALLON	2065	2031	34	1.6
FERGUS	5955	5514	441	7.4
FLATHEAD	27623	25540	2083	7.5
GALLATIN	23839	22621	1218	5.1
GARFIELD	803	793	10	1.2
GLACIER	5466	4863	603	11.0
GOLDEN VALLEY	370	323	47	12.7
GRANITE	1104	1002	102	9.2
HILL	8312	7741	571	6.9
JEFFERSON	4354	4073	281	6.5
JUDITH BASIN	1042	953	89	8.5
LAKE	9074	8409	665	7.3
LEWIS AND CLARK	26782	25185	1597	6.0
LIBERTY	1035	989	46	4.4
LINCOLN	8746	7762	984	11.3
MC CONE	1221	1179	42	3.4
MADISON	2275	2116	159	7.0
MEAGHER	1224	1092	132	10.8
MINERAL	2276	2022	254	11.2
MISSOULA	39540	37024	2516	6.4
MUSSELSHELL	2085	1976	109	5.2
PARK	5358	4832	526	9.8
PETROLEUM	271	267	4	1.5
PHILLIPS	2925	2712	213	7.3
PONDERA	3614	3394	220	6.1
POWDER RIVER	1202	1177	25	2.1
POWELL	3703	3445	258	7.0
PRAIRIE	732	688	44	6.0
RAVALLI	9505	8360	1145	12.0
RICHLAND	5598	5287	311	5.6
ROOSEVELT	6066	5715	351	5.8
ROSEBUD	7625	6909	716	9.4
SANDERS	4093	3647	446	10.9
SHERIDAN	2706	2619	87	3.2
SILVER BOW	17989	16613	1376	7.6
STILLWATER	2359	2153	206	8.7
SWEET GRASS	1386	1302	84	6.1
TETON	2581	2454	127	4.9
TOOLE	2601	2450	151	5.8
TREASURE	514	482	32	6.2
VALLEY	4225	3935	290	6.9
WHEATLAND	1162	1083	79	6.8
WIBAUX	722	657	65	9.0

TABLE IV-B
MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	NOVEMBER 1984 PERCENT RATE
STATEWIDE	396939	370617	26322	6.6
CASCADE	33666	31311	2355	7.0
YELLOWSTONE	59391	55754	3637	6.1
BEAVERHEAD	4325	4168	157	3.6
BIG HORN	4738	4393	345	7.3
BLAINE	3199	2938	261	8.2
BROADWATER	2253	2164	89	4.0
CARBON	4451	4132	319	7.2
CARTER	773	759	14	1.8
CHOUTEAU	2826	2699	127	4.5
CUSTER	6293	6019	274	4.4
DANIELS	1247	1194	53	4.3
DAWSON	5503	5204	299	5.4
DEER LODGE	4957	4495	462	9.3
FALLON	2054	2006	48	2.3
FERGUS	6089	5665	424	7.0
FLATHEAD	27383	25341	2042	7.5
GALLATIN	23432	22386	1046	4.5
GARFIELD	842	832	10	1.2
GLACIER	5517	4887	630	11.4
GOLDEN VALLEY	389	342	47	12.1
GRANITE	1151	1030	121	10.5
HILL	8393	7801	592	7.1
JEFFERSON	4100	3842	258	6.3
JUDITH BASIN	1090	1025	65	6.0
LAKE	9252	8593	659	7.1
LEWIS AND CLARK	26801	25200	1601	6.0
LIBERTY	1098	1053	45	4.1
LINCOLN	8614	7693	921	10.7
MC CONE	1262	1212	50	4.0
MADISON	2357	2221	136	5.8
MEAGHER	1230	1121	109	8.9
MINERAL	2540	2320	220	8.7
MISSOULA	39568	37098	2470	6.2
MUSSELSHELL	2143	2018	125	5.8
PARK	5334	4854	480	9.0
PETROLEUM	294	289	5	1.7
PHILLIPS	2984	2822	162	5.4
PONDERA	3724	3532	192	5.2
POWDER RIVER	1286	1239	47	3.7
POWELL	3797	3581	216	5.7
PRAIRIE	779	717	62	8.0
RAVALLI	9626	8507	1119	11.6
RICHLAND	5563	5302	261	4.7
ROOSEVELT	5990	5655	335	5.6
ROSEBUD	7771	7105	666	8.6
SANDERS	4306	3872	434	10.1
SHERIDAN	2806	2681	125	4.5
SILVER BOW	17806	16489	1317	7.4
STILLWATER	2425	2253	172	7.1
SWEET GRASS	1448	1375	73	5.0
TETON	2666	2527	139	5.2
TOOLE	2619	2508	111	4.2
TREASURE	524	497	27	5.2
VALLEY	4300	4037	263	6.1
WHEATLAND	1178	1116	62	5.3
WIBAUX	786	743	43	5.5

TABLE IV-C
MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	OCTOBER 1984 PERCENT RATE
STATEWIDE	402252	377198	25054	6.2
CASCADE	33939	31582	2357	6.9
YELLOWSTONE	59944	56265	3679	6.1
BEAVERHEAD	4515	4341	174	3.9
BIG HORN	4835	4504	331	6.8
BLAINE	3288	3052	236	7.2
BROADWATER	2345	2229	116	4.9
CARBON	4333	4087	246	5.7
CARTER	838	821	17	2.0
CHOUTEAU	2990	2855	135	4.5
CUSTER	6462	6154	308	4.8
DANIELS	1283	1237	46	3.6
DAWSON	5663	5362	301	5.3
DEER LODGE	5069	4584	485	9.6
FALLON	2143	2075	68	3.2
FERGUS	6140	5832	308	5.0
FLATHEAD	27974	26048	1926	6.9
GALLATIN	23905	22928	977	4.1
GARFIELD	890	869	21	2.4
GLACIER	5679	5096	583	10.3
GOLDEN VALLEY	397	362	35	8.8
GRANITE	1138	1047	91	8.0
HILL	8468	7905	563	6.6
JEFFERSON	3747	3506	241	6.4
JUDITH BASIN	1195	1107	88	7.4
LAKE	9454	8835	619	6.5
LEWIS AND CLARK	27022	25551	1471	5.4
LIBERTY	1142	1097	45	3.9
LINCOLN	8711	7895	816	9.4
MC CONE	1320	1270	50	3.8
MADISON	2502	2351	151	6.0
MEAGHER	1274	1179	95	7.5
MINERAL	2712	2520	192	7.1
MISSOULA	39285	37137	2148	5.5
MUSSELSHELL	2198	2086	112	5.1
PARK	5410	5029	381	7.0
PETROLEUM	308	299	9	2.9
PHILLIPS	3084	2923	161	5.2
PONDERA	3727	3553	174	4.7
POWDER RIVER	1313	1282	31	2.4
POWELL	3938	3693	245	6.2
PRAIRIE	800	761	39	4.9
RAVALLI	9654	8669	985	10.2
RICHLAND	5785	5509	276	4.8
ROOSEVELT	6033	5732	301	5.0
ROSEBUD	7822	7188	634	8.1
SANDERS	4143	3795	348	8.4
SHERIDAN	2846	2758	88	3.1
SILVER BOW	18036	16592	1444	8.0
STILLWATER	2499	2335	164	6.6
SWEET GRASS	1499	1428	71	4.7
TETON	2758	2651	107	3.9
TOOLE	2699	2596	103	3.8
TREASURE	542	519	23	4.2
VALLEY	4501	4162	339	7.5
WHEATLAND	1234	1167	67	5.4
WIBAUX	821	788	33	4.0

TABLE V

MONTANA

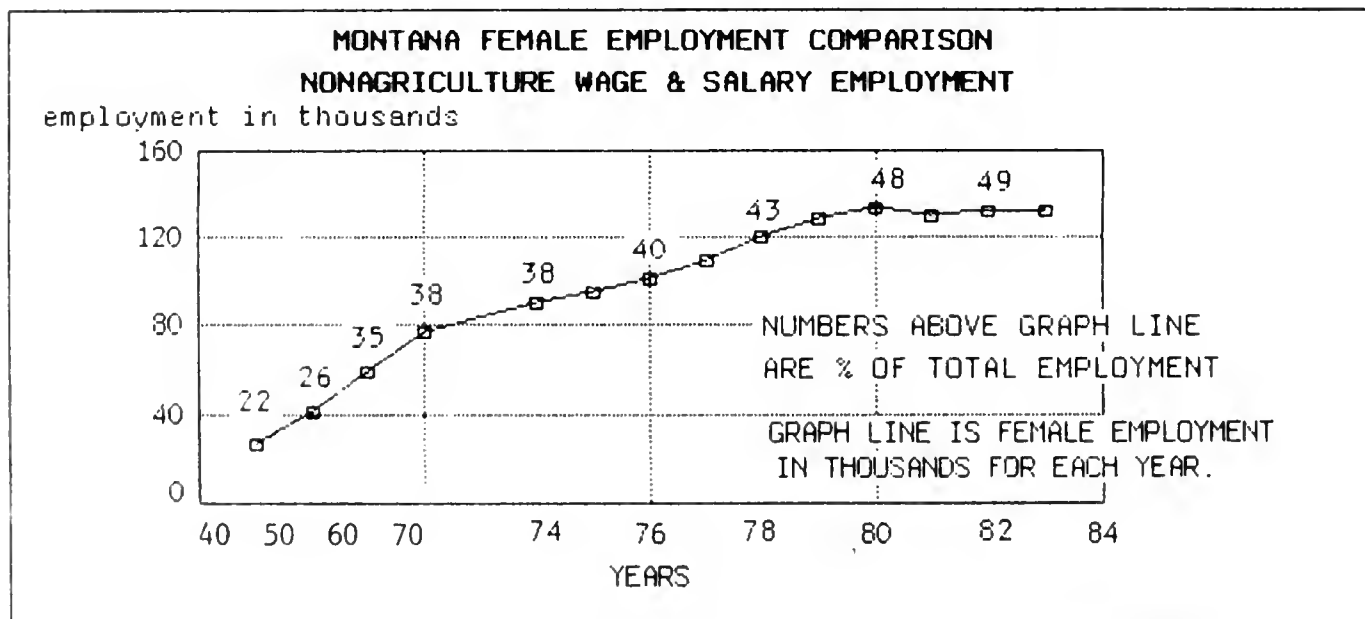
FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY
(In Thousands)

MAJOR INDUSTRY	FEMALE EMPLOYMENT				PERCENT FEMALE OF TOTAL	
	Dec. 1/ 1984	Nov. 1984	Oct. 1984	Dec. 1983	Dec. 1984	Dec. 1983
(Establishment Data)						
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers.	133.0	132.6	131.7	133.5	48%	49%
Manufacturing.....	2.5	2.6	2.7	2.5	13%	13%
Mining.....	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	5%	5%
Contract Construction.....	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	17%	18%
Transportation & Public Utilities.....	3.9	3.9	3.8	4.5	19%	23%
Wholesale & Retail Trade.....	33.3	32.7	32.9	33.9	46%	46%
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate.....	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.9	60%	61%
Services.....	38.4	38.3	38.0	38.4	64%	71%
Government (Federal, State & Local)...	45.0	45.2	44.4	44.2	63%	59%

1/ Current month preliminary.

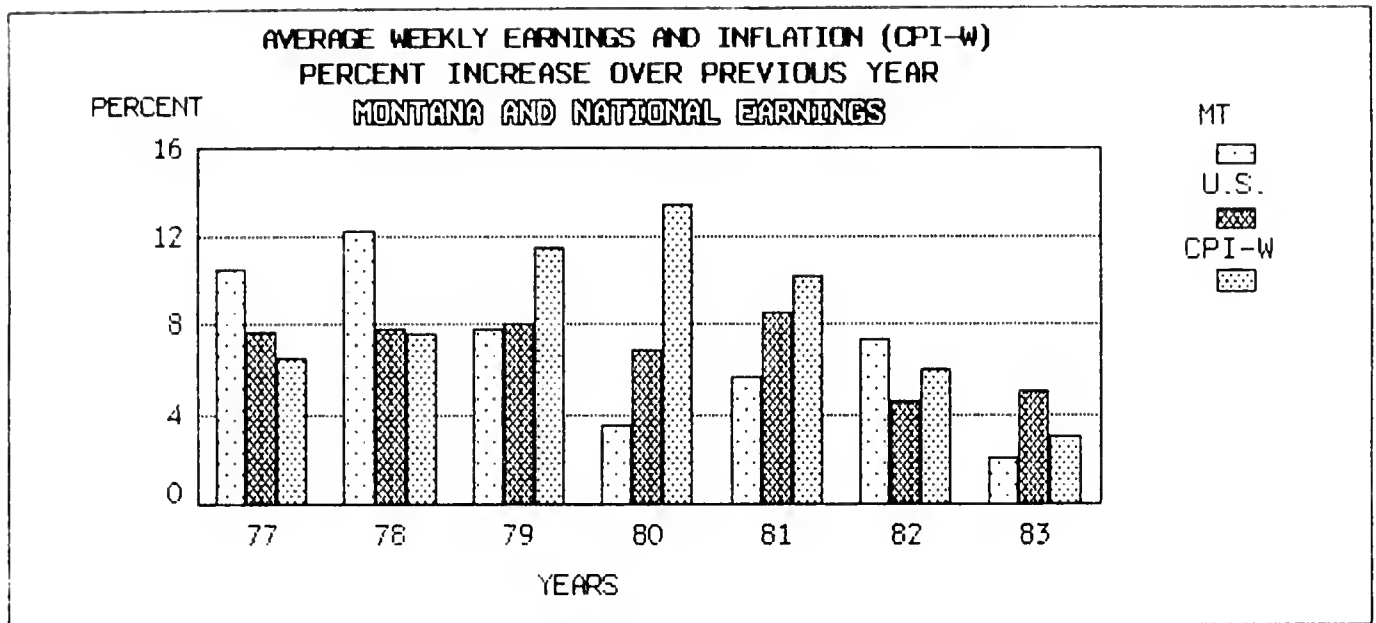
Revised to 1983 Benchmarks. Establishment series began January 1974.

Totals may not add due to rounding.



1940, 1950, 1960 and 1970 Employment from Census.

REAL SPENDABLE AND AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS



	Prelim. Dec. 1984	Nov. 1984	Oct. 1984
Gross Average Weekly Earnings	\$278.72	\$275.70	\$ 278.04
Taxes Withheld ^{3/}	43.05	42.23	42.86
Spendable Earnings	235.67	233.47	235.18
Adjustment for Price Changes Since 1967	160.18	158.62	159.85
Real Spendable Earnings	75.49	74.85	75.33

	1) Average Weekly Earnings			2) Real Spendable Earnings		
	1984	1983	1982	1984	1983	1982
January	\$274.07	\$264.40	\$255.84	\$76.74	\$77.57	\$76.47
February	269.28	264.19	258.96	75.43	76.20	77.07
March	265.36	264.99	258.82	74.48	76.22	77.15
April	275.55	267.81	259.29	76.74	76.44	76.94
May	274.90	272.57	263.76	76.25	77.26	77.17
June	277.71	281.06	263.50	76.72	79.15	76.32
July	286.94	282.20	269.26	78.59	79.88	77.62
August	281.06	282.63	277.04	76.50	79.64	79.43
September	289.68	280.73	267.59	78.07	78.84	76.93
October	278.04	282.74	272.57	75.33	79.19	77.98
November	275.70	275.70	269.92	74.85	77.46	77.41
December	(P)278.72	276.38	266.40	(P)75.49	77.02	78.25

Average Weekly Earnings/Real Spendable Earnings

Average weekly earnings followed the normal trend in the fourth quarter by declining 3 percent from third quarter earnings. Since the inflation rate did not increase during the fourth quarter, real spendable earnings realized the same 3 percent decline as average weekly earnings.

^{1/} Average Weekly earnings of total private nonagricultural production workers. ^{2/} Real spendable average weekly earnings of private nonagricultural production workers. ^{3/} Taxes computed on family with four exemptions. (P) Data for current month preliminary.

TABLE VI

MONTANA HOURS & EARNINGS

For Private Nonagricultural Industries

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings				
	Dec. 1984	Nov. 1984	Oct. 1984	Dec. 1983	Nov. 1984	Oct. 1984	Dec. 1984	Nov. 1984	Oct. 1984	Dec. 1983	
TOTAL PRIVATE.....	\$278.72	\$275.70	\$278.04	\$276.38	33.5	32.9	33.1	33.5	8.32	8.40	8.25
MANUFACTURING.....	427.73	407.42	409.23	427.73	40.2	38.4	38.9	40.2	10.64	10.52	10.64
Durable Goods.....	458.58	438.59	438.77	462.59	41.5	39.3	39.6	41.6	11.05	11.08	11.12
Primary Metal Industries..	556.49	545.66	524.90	558.59	39.3	38.4	37.6	40.1	14.16	14.21	13.93
Nondurable Goods.....	364.50	345.71	350.25	343.17	37.5	36.7	37.5	36.9	9.72	9.42	9.30
Food & Kindred Products...	341.93	304.78	316.13	341.35	38.9	36.5	37.5	39.6	8.79	8.35	8.62
MINING.....	566.49	508.41	510.51	559.02	41.9	37.8	37.9	42.0	13.52	13.45	13.31
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION.....	496.08	509.01	553.44	524.83	36.0	36.1	38.3	33.6	13.78	14.10	15.62
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES.....	470.05	461.33	464.13	472.89	39.5	38.8	39.4	41.3	11.90	11.89	11.45
Communications, Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services...	464.10	446.42	438.37	421.76	39.0	37.8	36.9	38.8	11.90	11.81	10.87
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE..	196.65	198.41	197.56	199.00	30.3	30.2	30.3	30.9	6.49	6.57	6.44
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE.....	234.85	223.87	220.00	206.31	35.8	35.2	35.2	34.1	6.56	6.36	6.05
SERVICES.....	227.20	217.70	215.45	208.73	32.0	31.1	31.0	31.2	7.10	7.00	6.69

Data for current month are preliminary.
Averages are based on gross earnings, including overtime and premium pay.
Selected Industries series began January 1950; Total Private Sector series began January 1969 (May 1972 issue).

Table VII

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA*

AREAS	Dec. 1984	Nov. 1984	Oct. 1984	Year-to-Date 1984	1983	AREAS	Dec. 1984	Nov. 1984	Oct. 1984	Year-to-Date 1984	1983
STATE OF MONTANA	208	355	369	4377	4208	HAVRE LFA	3	8	10	95	98
GREAT FALLS MSA	14	26	22	303	310	Blaine	1	4	3	27	18
BILLINGS MSA	34	47	59	622	627	Hill	2	4	7	63	73
						Liberty	0	0	0	5	7
MULTI COUNTY BUSINESS	5	26	12	219	197	HELENA LFA	18	24	23	309	308
						Broadwater	1	2	2	27	20
ANACONDA-BUTTE LFA	10	23	24	254	279	Jefferson	4	1	2	29	24
Beaverhead	1	8	4	45	58	Lewis and Clark	13	21	19	253	264
Deer Lodge	1	0	5	31	39						
Granite	0	1	1	13	9	KALISPELL LFA	25	47	56	616	579
Madison	4	2	3	32	34	Flathead	16	33	41	426	382
Powell	2	3	2	23	27	Lake	5	11	8	107	83
Silver Bow	2	9	9	110	112	Lincoln	4	3	7	83	114
						LEWISTOWN LFA	6	10	7	101	116
BOZEMAN LFA	30	32	30	460	402	Fergus	5	6	4	65	61
Gallatin	25	27	22	357	294	Golden Valley	0	0	0	1	2
Meagher	2	0	1	3	19	Judith Basin	1	0	2	11	15
Park	3	5	7	15	89	Musselshell	0	3	0	17	29
						Petroleum	0	0	1	1	1
						Wheatland	0	1	0	6	8
GLASGOW LFA	7	10	17	165	165	MILES CITY LFA	8	15	19	179	132
Daniels	0	0	0	11	12	Carter	0	1	3	5	5
Phillips	3	1	5	31	23	Custer	5	6	3	78	50
Roosevelt	1	3	4	50	65	Fallon	2	1	3	16	14
Sheridan	0	3	3	35	19	Powder River	0	1	4	12	15
Valley	3	3	5	38	46	Rosebud	0	6	5	60	43
						Treasure	1	0	1	8	5
GLENDOVE LFA	6	9	10	125	127	MISSOULA LFA	33	58	62	627	586
Dawson	4	3	2	42	54	Mineral	1	2	3	30	30
Garfield	0	0	1	5	8	Missoula	22	39	38	399	370
McCone	0	0	1	7	12	Ravalli	8	15	19	151	128
Prairie	0	0	0	2	2	Sanders	2	2	2	47	58
Richland	2	6	6	68	48						
Wibaux	0	0	0	1	3	SHELBY-CUT BANK LFA	6	10	7	164	168
						Chouteau	0	0	1	13	23
HARDIN-RED LODGE LFA	3	10	11	138	114	Glacier	2	2	0	45	47
Big Horn	1	2	5	43	37	Pondera	1	2	1	31	29
Carbon	2	2	3	53	43	Teton	1	2	2	34	29
Stillwater	0	2	3	25	24	Toole	2	4	3	41	40
Sweet Grass	0	4	0	17	10						

*Change in series. The listing has been reduced to employers enrolling their business with the unemployment insurance compensation program. Dropped from the series was new corporations registered with the Secretary of State. Often a duplication of count occurred when a new corporation filed with the unemployment insurance compensation program.

The new business tally does include successors to active accounts (an established business with a new owner) which amounts to nearly one-third of the total businesses.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE: CLAIMS TO PAYMENT

Many of those persons who become separated from their jobs enter our local Job Service offices for two reasons: to seek employment and to claim unemployment insurance (UI) benefits. Claimant wage credits obtained from insured employers are examined to determine if the claim meets monetary eligibility requirements for UI benefits and, if so, for how much per week is the claimant qualified. Monetarily eligible claims are subsequently segregated according to criteria for establishing which party (claimant or employer) was most responsible for the job separation in question. Claims for job separations resulting from claimant actions (issues) are further subjected to the test of whether or not an individuals' reduction in his potential benefit duration is warranted. If otherwise eligible and if availability criteria continue to be complied with throughout his actual unemployment duration, weekly benefit payments will commence with the claimant's second week of unemployment (a waiting week must be served under Montana law). The number and amount of such payments by county are shown in the table on the following page. Interstate payments in the table refer to payments made to individuals who now reside in other states but who had established wage credits in Montana based employment. Amounts shown in the table are financed through employer taxes paid to the Montana UI Trust Fund Account.

SELECTED UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTIVITIES IN MONTANA

YEAR-TO-DATE

	<u>1984</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>Net Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
Initial Claims	62,848	59,245	+3,603	+ 6.1%
Continued Claims	674,099	585,400	+88,699	+15.2%
Number of Benefit Payments	561,674	536,266	+25,408	+ 4.7%
Amount of Benefits Paid	\$67,291,850	\$63,843,308	+\$3,448,542	+ 5.4%
Average Weekly Benefit Amount	\$124.65	\$121.20	+\$3.45	+ 2.8%

MONTHLY

	<u>Dec. 1984</u>	<u>Nov. 1984</u>	<u>Oct. 1984</u>	<u>Change to Current Month from same mnth a yr ago Net</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Initial Claims ^{1/}	5,181	4,346	3,782	-743	-12.5%
Continued Claims ^{1/}	43,324	35,888	32,267	-10,037	-18.8%
Number of Benefit Payments ^{1/}	39,589	32,468	27,814	-7,060	-15.1%
Amount of Benefits Paid ^{1/}	\$4,868,511	\$3,763,668	\$3,212,966	-\$315,126	-6.1%
Avg. Weekly Benefit Amt ^{1/2/}	\$130.50	\$127.84	\$124.46	+3.43	+2.7%
Trust Fund Balance*	-\$3,496,928	\$682,257	-232,340	+\$177,860	+4.8%

^{1/} Regular Unemployment Insurance Program only.

^{2/} Derived According to Definition in "Handbook of Unemployment Insurance Financial Data".

* Does not include loans from Federal Government.

TABLE VIII
DISTRIBUTION OF REGULAR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

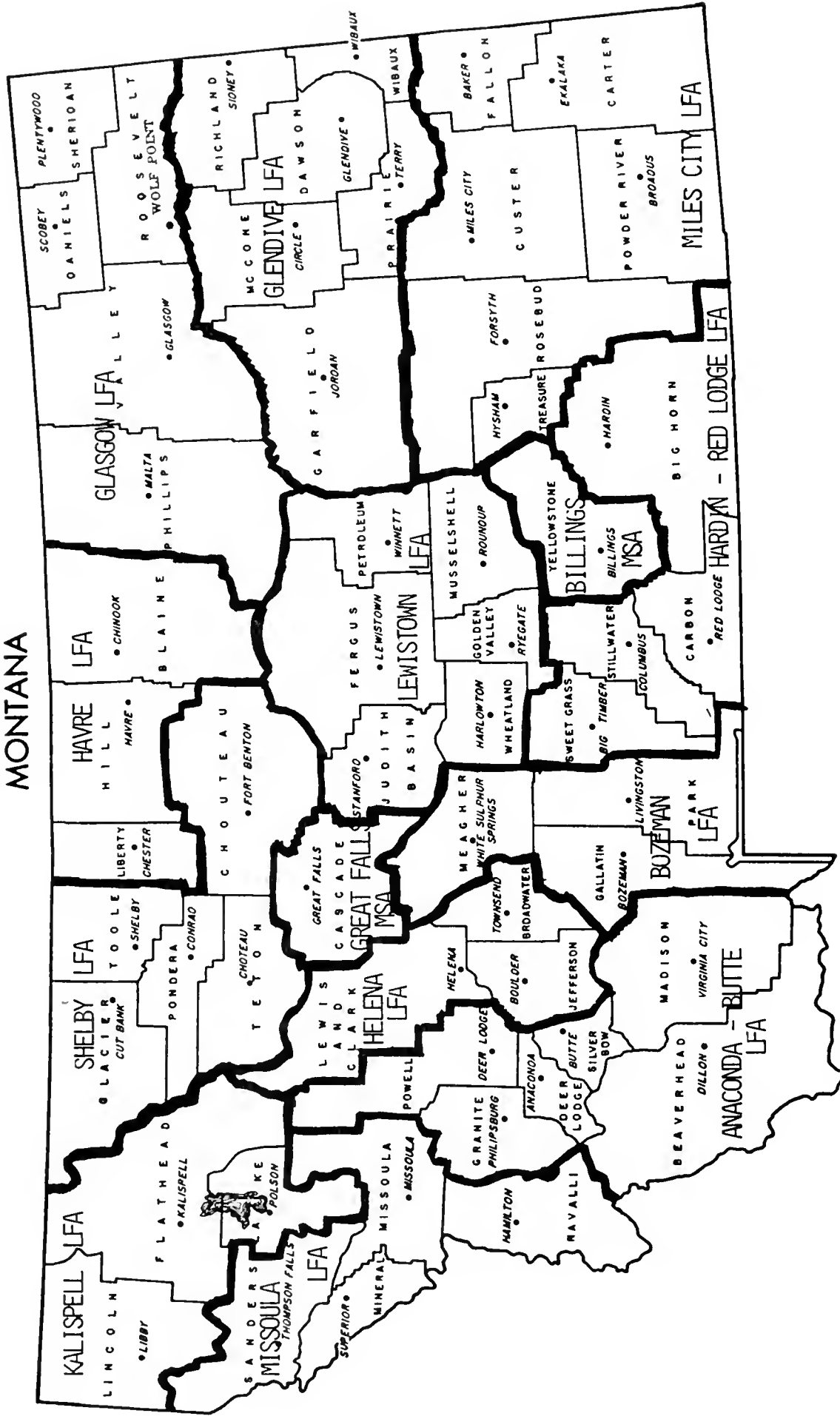
COUNTY	DEC. 1984		NOV. 1984		OCT. 1984	
	COUNT	AMOUNT	COUNT	AMOUNT	COUNT	AMOUNT
BEAVERHEAD	361	39,705	204	20,272	147	14,206
BIGHORN	431	50,667	323	36,222	287	33,381
BLAINE	270	30,827	206	21,831	205	21,496
BROADWATER	141	15,442	78	7,838	63	6,691
CARBON	426	48,927	357	38,904	254	28,175
CARTER	12	1,170	4	395	3	372
CASCADE	3,610	430,714	3,281	377,156	2,745	300,155
CHOUTEAU	132	14,200	123	14,280	106	11,809
CUSTER	499	65,953	331	39,013	199	20,729
DANIELS	46	5,371	30	2,713	29	2,645
DAWSON	367	43,425	287	35,233	289	33,827
DEER LODGE	658	75,208	573	64,356	519	64,796
FALLON	35	4,136	18	1,815	26	2,243
FERGUS	711	80,272	498	49,556	365	35,582
FLATHEAD	3,021	328,064	2,194	230,532	1,708	185,659
GALLATIN	1,928	197,661	1,660	165,262	1,294	135,697
GARFIELD	6	759	12	1,637	21	3,021
GLACIER	622	63,753	569	61,759	579	64,155
GOLDEN VALLEY	26	3,237	26	3,353	25	3,642
GRANITE	152	19,105	135	15,524	107	11,543
HILL	606	71,269	659	73,751	599	68,848
JEFFERSON	360	42,342	260	29,553	238	25,829
JUDITH BASIN	59	6,379	36	4,117	29	2,862
LAKE	799	86,977	638	68,263	560	58,556
LEWIS & CLARK	2,229	259,593	1,803	203,156	1,911	213,209
LIBERTY	58	7,746	43	5,865	52	6,357
LINCOLN	1,083	115,735	909	99,524	746	81,940
MCCONE	23	2,690	20	2,229	26	2,807
MADISON	136	13,011	101	10,348	82	8,933
MEAGHER	100	10,824	77	8,543	56	6,279
MINERAL	352	44,201	309	40,091	132	16,711
MISSOULA	4,526	563,508	3,584	436,200	2,746	320,176
MUSSELSHELL	127	15,641	106	12,893	101	12,491
PARK	701	72,075	482	48,121	382	39,727
PETROLEUM	2	237	2	294	3	360
PHILLIPS	258	33,355	127	13,813	121	11,086
PONDERA	236	26,690	186	20,461	173	18,407
POWDER RIVER	14	1,961	18	2,793	18	2,316
POWELL	241	27,444	251	28,286	200	22,614
PRAIRIE	55	6,999	25	2,639	19	2,016
RAVALLI	1,697	207,604	1,415	166,397	1,104	130,737
RICHLAND	253	30,555	228	28,441	264	31,946
ROOSEVELT	349	36,460	290	30,667	280	28,908
ROSEBUD	1,072	153,584	976	136,426	753	105,778
SANDERS	541	59,769	543	65,550	397	44,692
SHERIDAN	49	6,556	28	3,199	37	3,694
SILVER BOW	1,678	192,116	1,398	155,558	1,528	171,296
STILLWATER	248	31,779	132	17,466	134	17,415
SWEET GRASS	60	6,042	73	6,693	63	5,501
TETON	136	15,606	151	18,877	84	11,359
TOOLE	169	21,030	119	14,150	114	13,168
TREASURE	21	2,644	26	3,403	21	2,365
VALLEY	322	35,363	278	29,775	232	23,401
WHEATLAND	39	4,945	53	6,640	39	4,669
WIBAUX	53	6,579	25	3,236	16	1,917
YELLOWSTONE	5,756	714,221	4,488	529,235	4,012	475,021
INTRASTATE	37,894	4,668,855	30,781	3,565,940	26,259	3,027,422
INTERSTATE	1,695	199,656	1,687	197,728	1,555	185,544
TOTAL	39,589	\$4,868,511	32,468	\$3,763,668	27,814	\$3,212,966

TABLE IX				
CUMULATIVE DISTRIBUTION OF REGULAR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE				
JAN. 1984 THRU DEC. 1984			JAN. 1983 THRU DEC. 1983	
COUNTY	COUNT	AMOUNT	COUNT	AMOUNT
BEAVERHEAD	3,040	331,332	3,603	363,061
BIGHORN	5,158	596,845	5,406	605,121
BLAINE	3,491	367,024	3,362	341,945
BROADWATER	1,693	192,484	2,191	258,111
CARBON	4,705	587,347	3,602	430,997
CARTER	134	14,308	302	33,908
CASCADE	43,881	4,771,554	47,467	5,062,218
CHOUTEAU	1,162	123,485	1,340	140,408
CUSTER	5,291	637,620	5,225	579,706
DANIELS	583	56,080	592	67,652
DAWSON	5,124	597,570	10,898	1,273,420
DEER LODGE	7,943	945,888	12,238	1,561,945
FALLON	944	105,106	1,895	218,171
FERGUS	5,658	595,455	5,612	576,848
FLATHEAD	32,324	3,546,776	38,886	4,335,581
GALLATIN	22,407	2,346,495	26,590	2,729,533
GARFIELD	143	20,699	240	24,546
GLACIER	9,300	967,077	9,171	909,392
GOLDEN VALLEY	263	36,170	313	41,766
GRANITE	1,510	171,961	1,646	202,855
HILL	9,262	1,019,119	8,844	958,154
JEFFERSON	3,793	449,315	4,801	615,325
JUDITH BASIN	654	72,834	631	61,274
LAKE	9,303	958,116	8,652	876,840
LEWIS & CLARK	24,986	2,782,183	27,631	3,120,556
LIBERTY	498	60,893	434	49,828
LINCOLN	17,080	1,998,819	15,617	1,757,158
MCCONE	433	42,293	456	50,144
MADISON	1,853	202,062	2,477	286,277
MEAGHER	1,748	208,484	2,267	275,810
MINERAL	4,013	473,386	4,068	491,305
MISSOULA	44,330	4,980,626	41,524	4,287,890
MUSSELSHELL	1,760	204,555	2,822	349,947
PARK	6,660	654,523	7,416	685,682
PETROLEUM	98	12,789	121	11,288
PHILLIPS	2,259	280,693	3,341	395,294
PONDERA	2,501	254,357	2,753	282,788
POWDER RIVER	496	57,818	869	106,831
POWELL	3,798	427,999	3,896	442,320
PRAIRIE	515	70,969	503	64,895
RAVALLI	16,737	1,924,724	14,001	1,480,666
RICHLAND	5,661	683,074	12,568	1,593,590
ROOSEVELT	4,203	433,543	6,081	685,446
ROSEBUD	13,907	1,929,751	10,806	1,414,348
SANDERS	7,728	878,797	7,023	821,448
SHERIDAN	1,243	134,089	2,602	331,300
SILVER BOW	25,361	2,835,169	38,892	4,811,723
STILLWATER	3,363	419,425	3,698	436,469
SWEET GRASS	895	89,794	712	73,735
TETON	1,458	168,699	1,850	206,304
TOOLE	2,247	248,375	2,785	333,972
TREASURE	344	46,129	311	42,228
VALLEY	4,167	455,362	5,239	572,560
WHEATLAND	689	82,119	840	103,636
WIBAUX	559	60,344	998	122,010
YELLOWSTONE	75,548	9,151,649	77,193	8,838,083
INTRASTATE	455,013	52,767,928	505,530	60,091,928
INTERSTATE	23,832	4,997,647	26,736	3,367,309
TOTAL	478,845	57,765,575	532,266	63,459,237

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